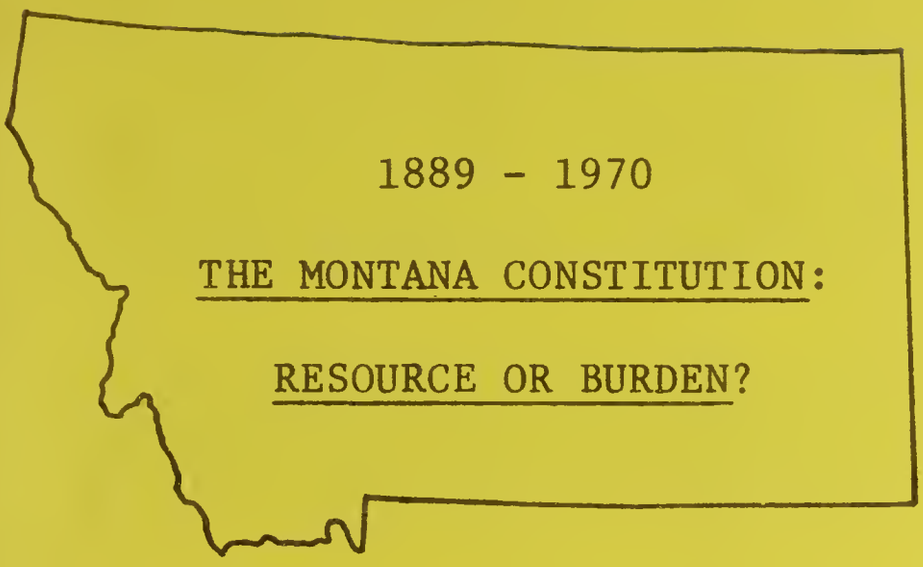
342.002
C72
1



1889 - 1970

THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION:

RESOURCE OR BURDEN?

Two Conferences on the Montana Constitution:

University Center
University of Montana
Missoula, Montana
May 16, 1970

Library
Eastern Montana College
Billings, Montana
June 20, 1970

Sponsored by
Montana Constitution Revision Commission, University of Montana Bureau of Government Research, and Eastern Montana College

Montana State Library
3 0864 1006 8263 5

SEVEN STEPS TO A MODERN CONSTITUTION

1. The Montana Legislative Council and the Montana Constitution Revision Commission have studied the constitution and found that there is need for substantial revision and improvement.

2. The Montana Legislature has submitted a referendum to call a constitutional convention to the vote of the people.

3. The people will vote this November on the referendum to call a constitutional convention.

4. If the convention referendum is approved, the next legislature sets the date for election of delegates by the people, the date and length of the convention, and the salary of the delegates.

5. The people elect delegates to the convention.

6. The convention meets and can propose revisions, alterations, or amendments to the constitution to be voted on by the people.

7. The people vote to approve or reject the proposals of the constitutional convention.

THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION: RESOURCE OR BURDEN?

"A popular government without popular information or a means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy."
James Madison

8:00--9:00	REGISTRATION, coffee
9:00--9:10	Welcome--Senator John K. McDonald, Chairman of the Constitution Revision Commission
9:10--9:45	So, What's Wrong with the Constitution?--Richard B. Roeder, Assistant Professor of Government, History and Philosophy, Montana State University; member Constitution Revision Commission
9:45-10:15	Why a Convention; Why Not Amendments?--Dale A. Harris, Administrative Assistant, Constitution Revision Commission, Research Associate, University of Montana
10:15-10:45	COFFEE BREAK
10:45-11:15	A Campaign for Montana--Representative Robert D. Watt, member Constitution Revision Commission
11:15-12:00	Modernizing the Montana Judicial System--Robert Ryan, Billings Attorney; Panel of Jurists, Attorneys
12:00--1:30	LUNCH: University Center (Missoula Conference); Student Center (Billings Conference) The Governor and the Constitution--William F. Crowley, Associate Professor of Law, University of Montana (Missoula Conference); speaker to be announced for Billings Conference.
1:30--2:15	Local Government and the Constitution--Mrs. Firman H. Brown, Jr., member Constitution Revision Commission; Panel of Local Government Officials
2:15--3:00	The Legislature and the Constitution--Dr. Lawrence K. Pettit, Assistant Professor of Government, History and Philosophy, Montana State University; Panel of Legislators
3:00--3:45	We, the People--A History of the Montana Constitution--Mrs. Firman H. Brown, Jr.
3:45--4:30	ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION, Montana Citizens for a Constitutional Convention

IS THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION AN INSTRUMENT OF POWER THROUGH WHICH THE NINETEENTH CENTURY TRIUMPHS OVER THE TWENTIETH CENTURY?

REFERENDUM NO. 67

AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE STATE OF MONTANA THE QUESTION WHETHER THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SHALL CALL A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. At the general election to be held in November 1970 there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Montana the question whether the legislative assembly at the 1970 session, and in accordance with Article XIX, section 8 of the Montana constitution, shall call a convention to revise, alter, or amend the constitution of Montana.

☐ FOR CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

☐ AGAINST CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

MEMBERS OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

Sen. John K. McDonald, Belt
Chairman

Rep. James E. Murphy, Kalispell
Vice-Chairman

Mr. Gus M. Albert, Miles City

Mrs. Firman H. Brown, Jr., Missoula

Mr. Wade J. Dahood, Anaconda

Mr. Otto T. Habedank, Sidney

Sen. John Lyon, Shelby

Sen Harry B. Mitchell, Great Falls

Sen. Jim Moore, Two Dot

Mr. James W. Murry, Helena

Mr. Richard B. Roeder, Bozeman

Mr. Leonard Schulz, Dillon

Mr. Kendrick Smith, Butte

Rep. William J. Speare, Billings

Rep. Robert D. Watt, Missoula

Rep. Robert S. White, Lewistown

* * * * * *

The Montana Constitution Revision Commission is authorized to disseminate information on the constitution. [1969 Montana Laws, Chapter 53]